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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 188264

YAOUNDE FOR DATT

E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: MOPS, PREL, PHUM, MARR, RW, UN
SUBJECT: SUPPORT FOR EXPANDED UNAMIR: APC DONORS SOUGHT
REF: USUN NEW YORK 2667 (NOTAL)

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT. THIS IS AN URGENT ACTION REQUEST.

SUMMARY

2. THE UN HAS REQUESTED FROM THE U.S. ON A LEASED BASIS 40 ADDITIONAL M-113 ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS (APC'S) FOR

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USE BY AFRICAN PEACEKEEPING CONTINGENTS OF THE EXPANDED UNAMIR DESTINED FOR RWANDA. THE U.S. HAS RECENTLY COMPLETED SHIPMENT OF 50 APC'S FOR THE GHANAIAN UNAMIR CONTINGENT WHICH IS IN THE PROCESS OF DEPLOYING. DWINDLING SUPPLY OF EXCESS APC'S MAKES U.S. FULFILLMENT OF NEW UN REQUESTS UNLIKELY. HOST GOVERNMENTS OF ACTION ADDRESSEES ARE KNOWN TO HAVE NUMBERS OF M-113 APC'S IN

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THEIR INVENTORIES, AND THEIR IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE IS
REQUESTED. POSTS ARE REQUESTED TO APPROACH HOST
GOVERNMENTS AND ENCOURAGE THEM TO LEASE TO THE UN SOME OF
THEIR APC'S. THE NIGERIAN CONTINGENT, THE LIKELY
RECIPIENT, IS EXPECTED TO DEPLOY BY END OF JULY,
NECESSITATING THAT HOST GOVERNMENT-UN CONTACTS BEGIN
SOONEST.

BACKGROUND

3. IN RESOLUTIONS 918 AND 925 OF MAY 17 AND JUNE 8,
RESPECTIVELY, THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL APPROVED EXPANSION
OF UNAMIR THE UN PEACEKEEPING MISSION IN RWANDA, FROM 450
TO 5,500 TROOPS, WITH A NEW HUMANITARIAN MANDATE TO HELP
PROVIDE PROTECTION TO THREATENED CIVILIAN POPULATIONS AND
FACILITATE RELIEF EFFORTS. IT IS CRUCIAL THAT DEPLOYMENT
OF EXPANDED UNAMIR MOVE FORWARD AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE.

4. THE FRENCH-LED HUMANITARIAN OPERATION APPROVED ON JUNE
22 IN UNSC RESOLUTION 929, IS ONLY A TEMPORARY MEASURE TO
PROVIDE PROTECTION UNTIL THE EXPANDED UNAMIR IS DEPLOYED.
IT IS VITAL THAT THE FRENCH-LED FORCES BE REPLACED AS SOON
AS POSSIBLE.

5. THE GHANAIAN UNAMIR BATTALION IS IN THE PROCESS OF
DEPLOYING, AND THE U.S. COMPLETED ON JUNE 30 THE AIRLIFT
TO KAMPALA, UGANDA OF 50 LEASED M-113 APC'S FOR THEIR USE.

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6. THE UN EXPECTS THAT THE NIGERIAN BATTALION WILL BE DEPLOYED TO RWANDA BY THE END OF THIS MONTH, AND IS SEEKING 40 ADDITIONAL LEASED M-113 APC'S (ORIGINALLY PROPOSED FOR THE ZIMBABWEAN BATTALION). THE U.S. CANNOT MEET THIS REQUEST IN A SUFFICIENTLY TIMELY MANNER BEFORE THE NIGERIAN BATTALION DEPLOYS. OTHERS IN THE WORLD COMMUNITY, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THOSE WHO VOTED FOR RESOLUTIONS 918 AND 925, SHOULD PLAY A PART IN THIS IMPORTANT UN PEACEKEEPING ENDEAVOR.

ACTION REQUEST

7. POSTS SHOULD APPROACH APPROPRIATE HOST GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND ENCOURAGE THEM TO CONTACT THE UN AND OFFER TO LEASE SOME OF THEIR M-113 APC'S FOR USE BY UNAMIR. POSTS SHOULD underscore THE IMPORTANCE OF A SPEEDY APPROACH TO THE UN SO THAT ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE

ACCOMPLISHED IN TIME FOR THE NEXT BATTALION'S DEPLOYMENT AT THE END OF JULY. POSTS SHOULD ALSO BRIEF THE OFFICIALS ON THE EFFORTS THE U.S. HAS MADE IN PROVIDING APC'S FOR THE GHANAIAN BATTALION WHICH IS IN THE PROCESS OF DEPLOYING. (NOTE: TRANSPORTATION OF THE APC'S IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE UN, ALTHOUGH IT MAY SEEK SEPARATELY TO CONTRACT HOST GOVERNMENT TRANSPORT ARRANGEMENTS IF DEEMED COST EFFECTIVE.) YOU MAY DRAW ON THE FOLLOWING POINTS IN YOUR DISCUSSIONS:

-- THE CRISIS IN RWANDA IS NOW MOVING INTO ITS FOURTH
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MONTH, WITH LARGE SEGMENTS OF THE RWANDAN POPULATION STILL UNDER SERIOUS THREAT FROM CONTINUED FIGHTING AND COMMUNAL VIOLENCE.

-- THE FRENCH-LED HUMANITARIAN OPERATION IS IN THE PROCESS OF PROVIDING IMPORTANT PROTECTION TO THREATENED POPULATIONS; HOWEVER, THE OPERATION IS ONLY A TEMPORARY ONE, UNTIL ADDITIONAL UNAMIR TROOPS CAN BE DEPLOYED.

-- IT IS CRUCIAL TO GET THE EXPANDED UNAMIR ON THE GROUND AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE, TO RELIEVE THE FRENCH-LED FORCES AND BRING LONGER-TERM PROTECTION TO RWANDAN CIVILIANS IN AS BROAD AN AREA AS IS FEASIBLE FOR UNAMIR FORCES.

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-- THE U.S. HAS BEEN WORKING CLOSELY WITH THE UN TO SPEED UP DEPLOYMENT, AND HAS JUST COMPLETED THE LEASE AND TRANSPORTATION TO UGANDA OF 50 M-113 APC'S FOR USE BY THE GHANAIAN BATTALION, THE FIRST CONTINGENT OF THE EXPANDED UNAMIR WHICH IS IN THE PROCESS OF DEPLOYING.

-- THE UN HAS REQUESTED LEASE OF AN ADDITIONAL 40 APC'S FOR USE BY THE NEXT CONTINGENT TO DEPLOY WHICH NOW APPEARS LIKELY TO BE THE NIGERIANS, EXPECTED TO ARRIVE BY THE END OF JULY. HOWEVER, U.S. EXCESS STOCKS OF APC'S ARE GREATLY REDUCED.

-- IT IS IMPORTANT FOR THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AS A WHOLE TO SUPPORT THE UN OPERATION IN RWANDA. THIS SUPPORT SHOULD NOT BE MERELY POLITICAL, BUT MATERIAL AS WELL.

-- WE UNDERSTAND THAT YOUR GOVERNMENT HAS M-113 APC'S IN CONFIDENTIAL

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ITS INVENTORY. WE ASK YOU TO MAKE SOME OF THEM AVAILABLE FOR THIS IMPORTANT UN PEACEKEEPING ENDEAVOR. YOUR ASSISTANCE IN LEASING M113S TO THE UN FOR THE USE BY UNAMIR WILL NOT ONLY ENABLE IT TO PERFORM ITS MISSION BUT WILL SEND A POWERFUL SIGNAL THAT THE ENTIRE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY SUPPORTS THE OPERATION.

-- WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO CONTACT THE UN EXFEDITIOUS Y AND OFFER TO LEASE SOME OF YOUR APC'S FOR USE BY UNAMIR.

8. FOR USUN: MISSION IS REQUESTED TO INFORM APPROPRIATE DPKO OFFICIALS OF THE ABOVE DEMARCHE TO POTENTIAL CONTRIBUTORS.

9. BUJUMBURA - MINIMIZE CONSIDERED. CHRISTOPHER

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